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W.H. BOEKER & SONS

Twentieth Annual

CORN BOOK

1930

PETERSBURG, - ILLINOIS



"As You Sow, So Shall You Reap."

The kind of seed you plant this Spring determines the kind of crop you will harvest this Fall. Increase your yield by planting Boeker's Pure-Bred Seed Corn

ORDER SHEET
W. H. BOEKER & SON
PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS

Growers and Breeders of Pure Bred Seed Corn

We give you 10 days to test corn. If not satisfactory, return it at the end of 10 days and we will cheerfully refund your money together with all freight charges.

Date _____, 1930.

All orders will be shipped as soon as possible, unless otherwise ordered.

Name _____
Write Plainly

We mail your freight receipt the day corn is shipped.

Postoffice _____

State _____

Street _____ or R. F. D. _____

To be shipped about _____

- No order accepted unless 10 per cent of purchasing price accompanies the same, with balance due before shipment. If your station is a prepaid station, freight charges must be included.

Shipping point _____
If Different From P. O. _____

Any shortage must be marked so by your freight agent, and reported immediately.

Shipped by _____

R. R. _____

Bushels	Mark Kind of Corn Wanted, Also Year Grown	Price per bushel		Amount Enclosed	
		Dollars	Cts.	Dollars	Cts.
.....	Boeker's Yellow Dent, Shelled and Graded.....	\$4	50	.....	.....
.....	Boeker's Yellow Dent, Ear.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Golden Leaming, Shelled and Graded.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Golden Leaming, Ear.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Krug Corn, Shelled and Graded.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Krug Corn, Ear.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Boeker's 90-100 Day Yellow, Shelled.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Boeker's 90-100 Day Yellow, Ear.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Clarage Corn, Shelled and Graded.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Clarage Corn, Ear.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Wisconsin No. 12 Yellow, Shelled.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Wisconsin No. 12, Ear.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Cooper's Favorite White, Shelled and Graded.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Cooper's Favorite White, Ear.....	4	50	.....	.....
.....	Any of the Above Varieties in Field Select.....	5	50	.....	.....
Total.....					

We reserve the right to change prices without notice.

Any of the above varieties in our Early Fall Field Selected, at \$5.50 per bushel. Either ear or shelled and graded. Any of the above varieties in small size at 50c per bushel less.

Will you kindly give second choice in case variety you order may be sold out? You will do us a favor by leaving your neighbor have your catalogue, as he may not have one. Save this order sheet for future use in making out your order.

FOREWORD

In presenting our Twentieth Annual Catalogue to our many customers both old and new, we wish to thank each and everyone for their liberal patronage, and especially to those who have found it profitable to buy their seed from us each year since we have been in business. As we are writing this we are forcibly reminded of the passing of another year. A great many of our friends have crossed over the great divide from whence no traveler ever returns. One by one the Boatman pale carries us across the river to the other shore. And to those of us who are left on this side, awaiting our turn to cross over, there comes the realization, that in the midst of life we are in death. Knowing then that we know neither the day nor hour of our crossing, let us put our trust in Him who said, I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me though he were dead yet shall he live. John 11-25.

I often think of John Quincy Adams who was walking down town one morning was asked by a friend, "how is John Quincy Adams this morning?" To which he replied, "John Quincy Adams is quite well, thank you, but the house in which I live is quite dilapidated and almost untenable." I believe John Quincy Adams will have to move out soon. He ment that his mortal body which housed his spirit, had about finished its task. But the spirit the real man which believes in Christ shall never die. John 11-26. But live on and on its individual identity in the next world, with a new body free from the desires of sin. Having this hope, let us hold fast the promises of Jesus, that we may be found worthy of a crown of life. May God bless those who read these words. For the New Year we wish that all may enjoy a greater measure of peace and prosperity. The year of 1929 will go down into history as the turning point in the farmers economic condition.

I do not believe the Farm Board was all the legislation that the farmer needed. The slow process by which the board hopes to relieve agriculture, will mean that many will not be able to hold out until relief comes. What agriculture needed was immediate relief supplemented with a permanent policy of cooperation, such as the board is trying to establish. The bringing together of the various commodity into cooperative units, where they can control production and price, will require years. While in the meantime fully 50 per cent of the now dirt farmers will have to abandon their effort to carry on. The result will be that more and more of farm titles will be held by insurance and trust companies. This will mean that the farm owner of today will be the farm tenant of tomorrow. Or farm operation will be conducted on a large scale by a farm manager, with the laborers housed around some central plant, much as our coal mining is conducted today. Such conditions would destroy the equalizing factor between capital and labor. The farm owner is a capitalist employer and labor, if reduced to a laborer the ratio between capital and labor or employeer and employee becomes too great and may cause discontent and bring about a revolution such as occurred in Russia. The farmers condition of today is directly traceable to discriminatory legislation which has brought about an unusual condition of opportunity, by favoring one class at the expense of the other. It does not require a foresighted mind nor a profit to visualize agricultural condition that will exist in this country twenty years hence, unless better prices are realized at once. It is a very stupid government which permits one class to prosper at the expense of the other class, by building a high wall of protection around the manufacturer, and leave the farmer outside and defenseless. In Chicago such methods are called racketeering, while in Washington it is called tariff protection. Both work very much the same when you come to think about it, only the difference in the method employed. The racketeer takes his at the point of a gun, while the manufacturer takes his at the point of unjust law, neither giving value for what they take.

There is only one remedy left to the farmers of this country. He must vote as he thinks and he must think of self-preservation. Votes are the only thing that counts with our legislators. We have been fed up on pre-election promises so long that some of our Congressmen think that we can continue to live on such promises

without action in our interest. Political platforms are vehicles upon which candidates ride into office. Year after year the farmers have been patted on the back and told by his Congressman that this time they will surely see to it that he will have equality before the law, only to violate that promise as soon as he was elected. There is however a hopeful sign in the growth of the central west farm block, which acts as a buffer against the commercialized east. Senator Moses one of the high protectionists of the New England States has called our farm block representatives the sons of wild jack asses. Well the jack ass is a beast of burden. And the farmer has been the burden bearer for many years. If we succeed as we hope to succeed in obtaining equality before the law, we must become thoroughly organized as labor is. We must demand the appointment of a cabinet office who will be in thorough sympathy with agriculture. We must combine the various farm organizations into one large organization to speak for us. We have divided our strength by going before Congress with a half dozen farm organizations, each demanding something different. If the farm organizations had been united and had demanded the equalization fee, they could have passed it over the Coolidge vote.

We predict a little higher price level for farm commodities for 1930 than the preceding year. Especially will this be true of corn. This serial will hold up well in price until it is definitely known what the next crop will be. All in all the year of 1930 portends better prices and greater profits than for some years past. The various marketing machinery will be partly effective in time to help to raise the general price level of farm products.

The growing season of '29 so far as it affected the corn crop of Central and Southern Illinois was an adverse one. In the early part of the plant growth we had too much rain and cold weather, so that the plant maturity was retarded about four weeks. This retarded condition extended through the maturing of the grain, so that the corn was fully four weeks late in maturing. As a result nearly all corn carried an unusual amount of moisture at the time of the first hard freeze in November, thus injuring all seed that was not sufficiently dried or kept in a dry warm place. We believe this year is in many respects like that of 1917-18 and good seed will be very scarce, we would advise that all our customers order their seed early so that they may be sure of having good seed at planting time. We cannot guarantee our price through the entire season and reserve the right to advance our price without notice.

Corn is our best moneyed crop in Central Illinois, there is less world competition in corn than in wheat. There are fewer crop failures with corn than wheat. For the past ten years a poor corn crop has produced more money than a good wheat crop. We cannot guarantee you a higher price for your 1930 corn crop, but we can guarantee you a good stand and a higher yield, by planting our breed for high yield seed. The increased yield of less than one bushel per acre will more than pay for your seed. While the average increase from our seed over your own is about ten bushels. The selecting and caring for seed corn is a real job. It requires a knowledge of selection and curing, housing, testing and grading. Few farmers have these facilities to properly select and dry their seed. We have spent almost a lifetime in the study of seed corn. We try to keep abreast of the times in the study of the various diseases that affect corn, and in a large measure we have succeeded in breeding varieties that do resist disease.

There is no investment that a farmer can make that will pay larger dividends than good seed, and especially is this true as to good seed corn. In buying seed corn it is best to buy a corn that is adapted to the locality in which it is to be grown. This is especially true when corn is taken 150 or 200 miles north and planted, we have seen this tried a number of times, and in each case the yield was reduced from one-half to one-fourth of normal crop, while taking seed corn south and growing it does not effect the yield to any appreciable extent. In buying any-

thing it is always well to consider the integrity of the firm you are dealing with, and in which you have utmost confidence of receiving a square deal.

Seed corn selection: James R. Holbert says, two lessons are forcefully presented: First, in the value of selection of seed ears of known ancestry. The other lesson is the necessity for developing strains of seed corn that are highly resistant to root and stalk rot diseases. Two different strains of seed were inoculated with giberella, a stalk rot organism. In one case the yield was reduced to almost nothing, in the other the yield was slightly affected.

Some of the chief causes of corn diseases are now directly traced to the lack of the various elements which are essential in the production of corn. The Purdue Experiment Station is conducting an experiment by which it hopes to overcome those elements in the soil which are now thought to be the direct cause of the root rot and stalk rot organism, by the use of potash. Mr. G. I. Christie says, it has been discovered that corn plants are frequently affected by accumulations of iron and aluminum compounds in them. When the plants are thus affected they become susceptible to infection by root and stalk rot organisms, as a result the plant may die prematurely, or they may have their ear producing power so reduced that the ears are incompletely matured. Such ears are usually starchy and chaffy. The injuries induced by the iron accumulation do not occur when the plant receives adequate available potash. This iron trouble is widespread throughout the corn belt, particularly east of the Mississippi River.

For a number of years we noticed and studied various fields and their relation to the root rot and stalk disease. We have found that two fields containing the same variety and strain of corn would vary greatly in disease affection. It was found that in those fields where all the elements necessary to produce a high yield of sound corn were present in the soil, little infection of the root and stalk rot disease was present. While in those fields where corn had been grown for a number of years and in which the elements of plant food were deficient, a much greater percentage of the disease was present. This is due largely to the fact that there were disease spores in the ground and old stalks which had corn on it the previous year. It is a well known fact to seed corn breeders, that new or sod land is much less affected by this disease. For this reason it has been our policy for some years to grow our seed on new or sod land. The difference in yield from disease tested and untested seed in a disease resistant type of corn is not so great as some would have us believe. Yet, in types of corn that are susceptible to disease, the testing for disease is of some value. From this latter type of disease free seed we have known the crop to be 85% diseased. So we see that though we may plant a disease free seed it does not follow that the crop will have less diseased corn than the one grown from untested seed. From our observation and experiments, we find that there are certain types of corn where the increase in yield will not cover the cost of testing for disease, while in some low grade seed the results are sufficient to warrant the expense.

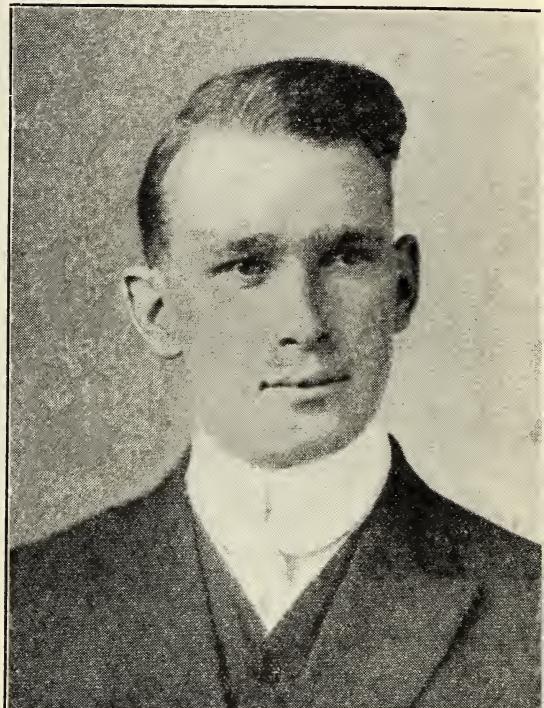
Last year in our test plot we found that the seed tested for disease did not yield quite 60 pounds more per acre basis than the same seed which was untested for disease. This is a very small difference and would not pay the average corn grower for the expense of having it tested, especially when you send your seed to an accredited seed testing laboratory, the cost is three times that which the average Farm Bureau charges. Yet we have the satisfaction of knowing that the work is done by experienced persons who make this work a specialty. We have noticed that certain persons who have been testing corn for disease must first see the ear before they are able to determine whether it is affected with diplodia scutellum or of fusarium moniliform infection. If the grain which has been germinated does not clearly show disease, then surely the ear itself will show less. Such a test is of little value so far as disease goes.

There has been much discussion about seed corn, insomuch that the average farmer has but a faint idea what constitutes good seed corn. For the benefit of our customers we will briefly outline some of the requirements of good seed ears. These are the physical characters which govern seed ears and seed condition. The conditions here described are brief and do not go into detail, yet are sufficient for guidance for the average corn grower.

First, select your seed in the field, but do not select any ears that are not fully matured. Immature ears do not produce strong seedlings because plant food has not been fully stored in such ears, and the seedling will be more susceptible to disease. This fact is so well established it requires no argument; second, select ears with strong and unbroken shanks with the ear hanging at about forty degrees. Examine the shank if it is bright and not shredded, this will indicate a healthy



W. H. BOEKER.



C. L. BOEKER.

shank; third, do not select ears from stalks whose leaves or stalks are discolored with a reddish or purple color, as these are diseased in most cases; fourth, select ears whose husk covers well the tip of ear, as this prevents disease spores and the earworm from entering so readily; fifth, select ears with slight indentation and which have an oily luster with medium breadth and length of kernel, such ears contain more viability, vigor and freedom from disease; sixth, select ears from stalks which have a healthy unbroken tassel, broken and small tassels indicate disease. If the average corn grower will follow the foregoing suggestions he will greatly benefit by it.

A great many farmers will plant any kind of seed this year, because of the shortage of money; some will even resort to crib corn for their seed, which will only bring disappointment and grief next fall. Crib corn is never

good seed. To show how inferior crib corn is, we quote the U. S. Agricultural Department, Bulletin 414, here is what it says in full: The breeding and selecting of high yielding seed are of great importance. The proper preservation is of equal importance. Four bushels of corn were harvested and divided into two equal parts; one part was well dried and kept dry during the winter in a seed house and



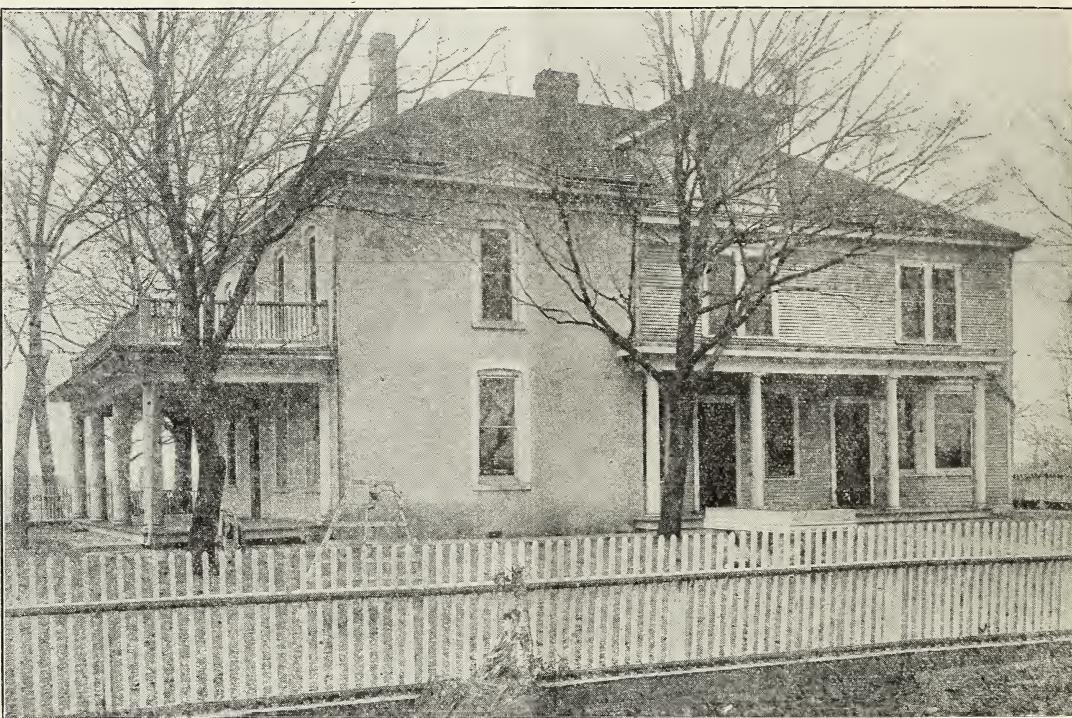
A BUSHEL OF BOEKER'S YELLOW DENT.

the other kept in an ordinary corn crib. In the Spring the well preserved corn was put in one box of a two-row planter and the crib corn in the other planter box. On rich bottom land planted in this manner the well preserved seed produced 18 bushel more per acre, or 27% more than the crib corn. While on poor upland the well preserved corn produced 7 bushel more per acre, or 12% more than the crib corn. The crib seed germinated as well as the preserved seed, but the resulting plants were less thrifty and less productive. The foregoing are the exact words of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and not ours. The explanation of this is: The two bushels put in the seed house were quickly dried and properly kept so until it was planted, thus retaining its full vitality. The crib corn was lowered in vitality by successive freezing and thawing so that its vitality was greatly reduced, yet sufficient for reproduction, so that the stand was from all appearance as good as the well preserved seed. So far it was a 50-50 break, but when the seedling began to grow the good seed had a robust vitality and grew off rapidly. The crib corn whose vitality had been greatly lowered had little to draw from to push it along, it being in a weakened condition, so that when disease attacked it it did not have the power of resistance that the good seed did, and consequently much of it fell prey to the various diseases which attack corn. The principal cause for its low yield being its lack of resistance due to its low vitality.

Here is another paragraph from the same bulletin to which we wish to call attention: In purchasing seed corn it is wise to give more attention to the pro-

ductiveness of a variety, its uniformity and its adaptability to the soil and climate where it is to be grown than to the variatal names. A variety or strain can be rendered exceedingly productive by proper breeding. But if neglected it soon deteriorates. Careful breeding of productive strains of corn are needed in every community and growers who do not care to grow a special seed plot and select their seed with care, should buy the best home grown seed obtainable. If of the best quality it will be worth fully \$25.00 more per bushel for seed purposes than unselected seed. A bushel of seed corn will plant 8 acres. Seed of the best quality will increase the yield 10 bushel per acre, thereby increasing the yield 80 bushel for each bushel of seed planted.

Taking up adaptability, corn which is grown in certain localities does better in that locality than seed which is brought from a distance, especially is this true



RESIDENCE OF W. H. BOEKER.

where seed corn is taken north from where it has been grown. We would say 150 miles should be the limit. Productive strains are those which have been built up by the ear to the row method and by selection for their yielding quality. We have found that two ears whose physical appearance were alike would vary as much as 30 bushel or more per acre. However, by careless selection, the very best seed corn will soon deteriorate. For this reason it always pays to buy new seed each year. The best seed corn is always the cheapest in the long run.

Good seed corn is the foundation of a profitable corn crop. There is nothing that will yield a greater return on money invested than good seed corn. The cost to plant an acre of ground with our seed is from 50 to 75 cents per acre, and the increased yield is often 5 to 20 bushel per acre, thus giving you a profit of from

1,200 to 3,000% on your investment, and you can borrow the money with which to buy it at 6%, don't you think it is penny wise and pound foolish not to buy good seed.

What is a fair price for high grade seed corn? This is a question that occurs to most of us when we come to buy. Some people who have never given the subject a thought, believe that for every 100 bushels put in our plant in the Fall, we should be able to sell nearly that amount in the Spring. Here is how it actually figures out. First, there is a shrink of at least 20%; second, in tipping and butting there is a loss of 20%; third, in grading there is a loss of 15%; fourth, resorting and testing there is another loss of 15%. So that there is a loss of 70% all told. This leaves only 30% of all the seed put in our plant for sale the next Spring. This 30% must bear all the expense connected with the seed business, some of which are: 25 cents per bushel above market price, to have it rough sorted by our growers before they deliver the corn to us. Fuel for drying the corn. Sacks and crates, twine, catalogues, stamps, advertising, gasoline and oil, wear and depreciation on plant and machinery, interest on stocks, and lastly labor, which is the greatest item of any. From the foregoing one can readily see that there is a great expense connected with the business.

We always have a limited amount of second sized grain seed which will plant about one more acre to the bushel. This seed is just as good as the larger grained seed, and will plant just as evenly as any in an edge drop planter. We sell this size at 50 cents per bushel less than our standard size.

In conclusion we wish to say to our customers, if our corn has proven all that you should reasonably expect from it, you will do us a great favor by telling your neighbor about it. A satisfied customer is our best advertiser. It has always been our aim to give each and every customer dealing with us justice and value received. Our guarantee is so broad and liberal you take no chance when dealing with us, as each and every transaction with our customers must be satisfactory, or we will cheerfully refund the purchase price, together with all transportation charges. To our customers and friends: we wish you success and prosperity for the year 1930.

Yours truly,

W. H. Boeker & Son.

We attribute our success to the fact that it has always been our motto: "Not How Much, but How Good!" We know, if we have the quality, quantity will take care of itself, for there will always be a demand for a seed corn which is distinctly superior in quality.

All our seed is grown from disease free stock, and selected for its disease resistant qualities. So that the seed our customers receive is only one crop removed from the disease free seed.

We do not give a lengthy guarantee, which, when boiled down, means practically nothing. We guarantee our corn to suit you in every way or you may return it after ten days and your money will be promptly returned.

During the past twenty years our seed corn business has had a satisfactory growth, especially is this true as to our own county, where our increased business has been most noticeable. We are very proud of this achievement and confidence. It will always be our purpose in the future as in the past to supply our patrons with seed corn of such high quality, that this confidence shall not have been misplaced. Our customers are numbered amongst the largest corn growers and feeders of Menard County. This year we have the following varieties of seed corn, which



A FLOOR OF BOEKER'S YELLOW DENT.

have stood the test for satisfaction and yield: Boeker's Yellow Dent, Golden Leaming, Krug Corn, Boeker's 90-100 Day Yellow, Clarage Corn, Golden Glow, or Wisconsin No. 12. In white we have Cooper's Favorite White.

TIME OF SELECTING SEED CORN.

A great many people ask as to when we select our seed corn. All our field select seed corn is picked in a sack and dried on hangers. This corn is picked in sacks carried over the shoulders of the picker, and emptied into crates. Only the well matured ears are taken. Special care is taken in selecting only such ears as are free from root rot and a medium height from ground, and hang downward. This is a superior grade of seed for which we charge \$1.00 extra to cover cost of labor. This corn being picked and dried early, before any frost, should be nearly 100 per cent good. Our regular ear corn is selected as it comes from the field, which is the same price as the shelled and graded.

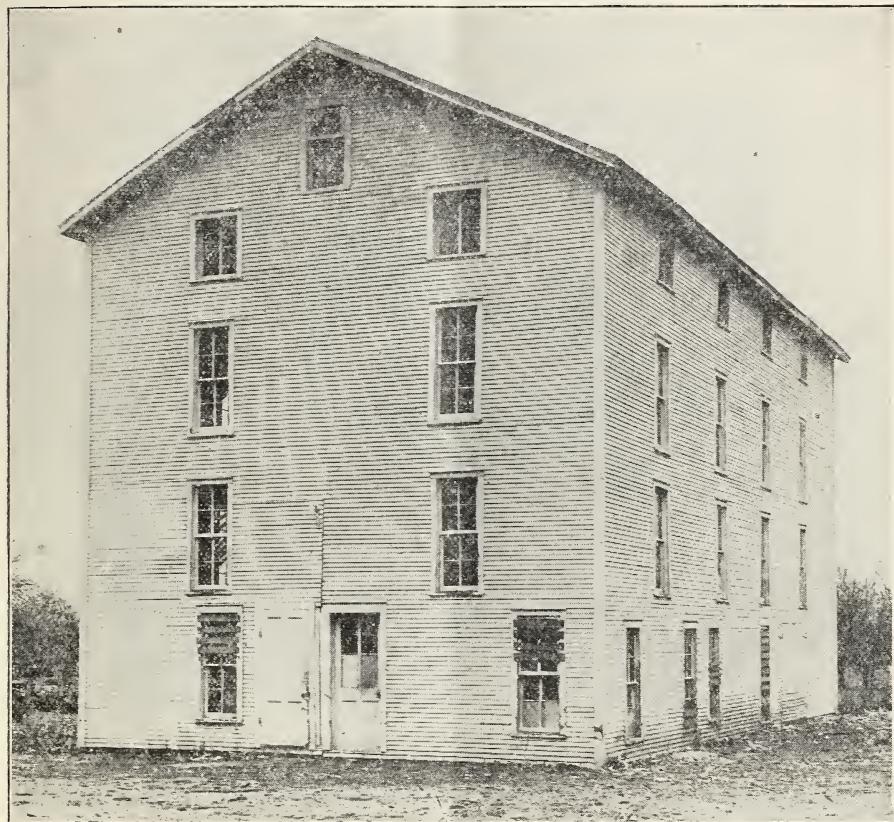
OUR METHOD OF DRYING.

We select only sound ears containing a minimum of moisture. These are dried by artificial heat and ventilation on 1 x 4 floors with 1 inch spaces. We start the heat as we start filling our house and continue it until the corn is thoroughly

dry. We always turn on heat during damp days as all grain absorbs more or less dampness. All ears showing springiness are dried separately on hangers.

SELECTING AND TESTING OUR FIELD RUN CORN.

Our corn is first selected as it comes from the field. Then about the middle of January we begin re-sorting and testing our corn by testing each individual ear in three or more places. All ears which do not show a good, strong germ are thrown out for feed. As we fatten cattle and hogs continually for the market, we are able to dispose of the refuse corn at but a slight loss.



OUR NEW PLANT, 1917.

AS TO GERMINATION.

We are often asked what per cent of germination test we guarantee. For the past ten years we have not guaranteed any certain per cent of germination, but have let each customer decide for himself as to whether the corn was good enough for him after he had tested it himself. In the course of our business we have found that there are scarcely any two persons who will get the same test from the same corn, nor will different parties get the same per cent of stand from the same corn. There are so many things that contribute toward a good stand of

MATURES IN FROM 110 TO 120 DAYS.

corn aside from having good seed. For instance, it may be planted too deep, or it may be planted too shallow, or it may be planted when the ground is too cold or too wet. Then there are the insects and the various vermin that may be the cause of not getting a good stand. In the past we shipped seed corn to two different parties, that was taken from the same corn and tested in the same manner and was shipped on the same day; also the test for germination on day of shipment showed the same per cent of germination. One of these parties got a fine stand and was pleased with the seed we shipped him, while the other got a poor stand and laid all the blame to the seed. Now this corn was in the possession of these parties for 60 days before planting. The one must have taken good care of his seed and planted it when ground was in proper condition, while the other must have let his corn get damp and then freeze and possibly planted it when ground was in poor condition to plant. For this reason we prefer that our customers make their own test, and if they do not find the germination or quality what they have a right to



A BUSHEL OF BOEKER'S GOLDEN LEAMING.

expect, they may return it to us, and we will refund the purchase price together with all carriage charges.

In 1917 on account of our increased business we were compelled to enlarge our facilities for housing, drying and handling our seed corn. We decided to build so that we would have room enough for some time to come, so we built our new plant eight times that of our old plant. We now have a four story building and are able to dry from six to eight thousand bushels of seed. We are therefore in a much better position to serve our customers than heretofore.

We use the breeding plot to maintain the high standard of our corn. This is done by planting an ear to the row. All ears are carefully selected, and fully described. Each ear is numbered from 1 to 40 and every individual ear together with its description is registered. Then in the fall every alternating row is de-tasseled. This prevents inbreeding. We husk and weight the detasseled rows

separately, to determine the highest yielding rows, from which we take our own seed, for the next year's planting. In this way we secure and maintain a high yielding strain of corn. There is no other way of securing a prolific high strain, except by systematic and scientific breeding up from a high yielding parent stock, whether it be in the animal or vegetable kingdom.

TIME TO MATURE.

We do not recommend Boeker's Yellow Dent north of latitude 42 degrees, or north of the northern part of Illinois. As it is the largest deep grain yellow corn on the market, it necessarily requires a little longer time to mature; while in central Illinois it matures ordinarily in 110 to 120 days.

WHERE TO BUY SEED CORN.

This question comes to every farmer as soon as he has made up his mind to buy a pure bred seed. Naturally, there are quite a number of places or firms who offer seed corn for sale, some good and some not so good. There are some general seed firms who do not make seed corn a specialty and who offer seed corn for less money than good seed can be produced.

A FAIR PROPOSITION.

We ship our corn on ten days' approval, allowing you ten days from day it arrives at your station to decide whether the corn suits you in every way or not. If the corn does not suit you, all we ask is that you put it back in the original sacks in as good condition as you received it. By this we mean that you must not let it get wet or damp, and we will cheerfully refund the purchasing price together with freight charges. We cannot do more. You could not ask a more fair proposition.

IT PAYS TO BUY GOOD SEED.

It has been shown that the difference in yield between a pure bred seed corn and other seed corn, under like conditions, varies from 2 to 40 bushels per acre, according to the purity or degeneracy of the seed. Now, then, if this be true, and you get only two bushels more corn per acre, you not only have your seed free, but a profit of at least the price of one bushel per acre. We are only taking the minimum amount, to show you that it always pays to buy a pure bred seed, no matter if you already have a good seed corn.

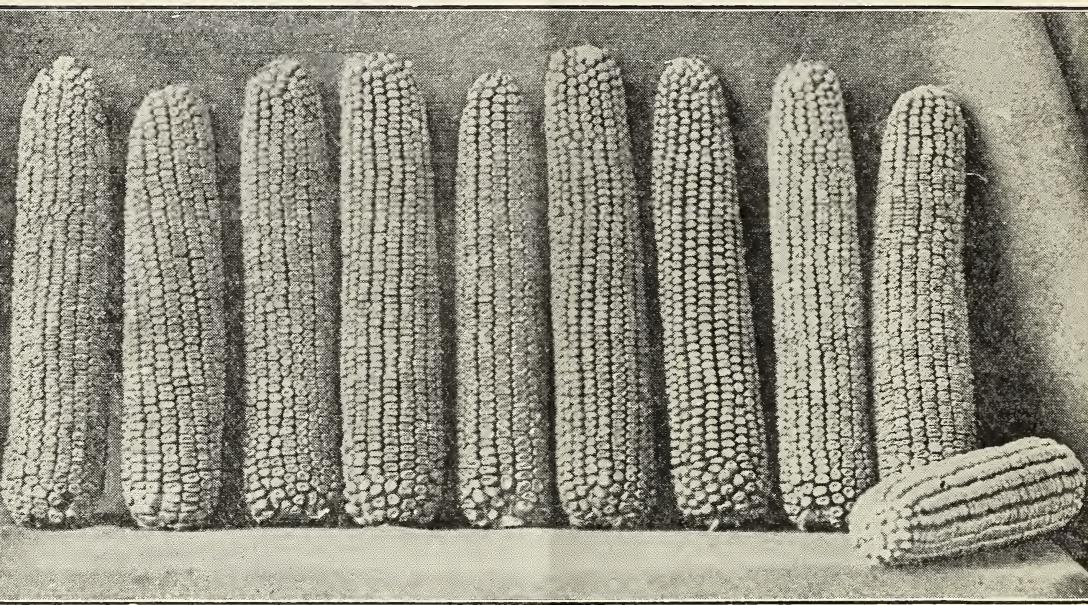
This is a day of specialization, and very few corn growers are prepared to select and care for their seed corn, as there is so much deceased corn, and so many factors enter into selection and breeding of a high grade seed corn that the average farmer has not the time to specialize in this matter, but will find it much cheaper to buy a high grade seed corn from those who have made this a study and business.

We have been breeding and growing seed corn for the past twenty-five years. We have made the growing of seed corn our main business. We have read everything pertaining to the development and growing of a high-grade seed corn that the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the University of Illinois have to offer on this subject. We have given the best twenty-five years of our life to this work, which should be of importance and value to those who buy seed corn. We do not claim to know all about seed corn, we thought we did a long time ago, but we find that we learn something new each year. There are new conditions arising each year, which must be studied and overcome, just as in the practice of medicine. The young fellow who gets his diploma feels he has about all the knowledge there is pertaining to his profession; whereas, the old practitioner knows the greatest

value and success comes from daily practice and observation of his work. A theoretical knowledge without practice is only a beginning of the work in hand. Success can only come by the application of both.

MERIT ALONE MUST DETERMINE.

We do not claim to be the largest seed corn firm in the world or to have the largest buildings, hoping thereby to influence the prospective purchaser. Nor do we ask our fellow farmers to purchase seed corn from us because of some record sales. We do not depend upon a past reputation, nor hope that it will sell our corn regardless of quality. We are striving for the highest and best there is in pure bred, high germinating seed, never content with past achievements. Our methods and equipment for the proper curing and handling of seed corn are as complete as any of the largest plants, besides a much greater per cent of the work is done by us **individually**. We **know personally just what goes into**



BOEKER'S IMPROVED GOLDEN LEAMING.

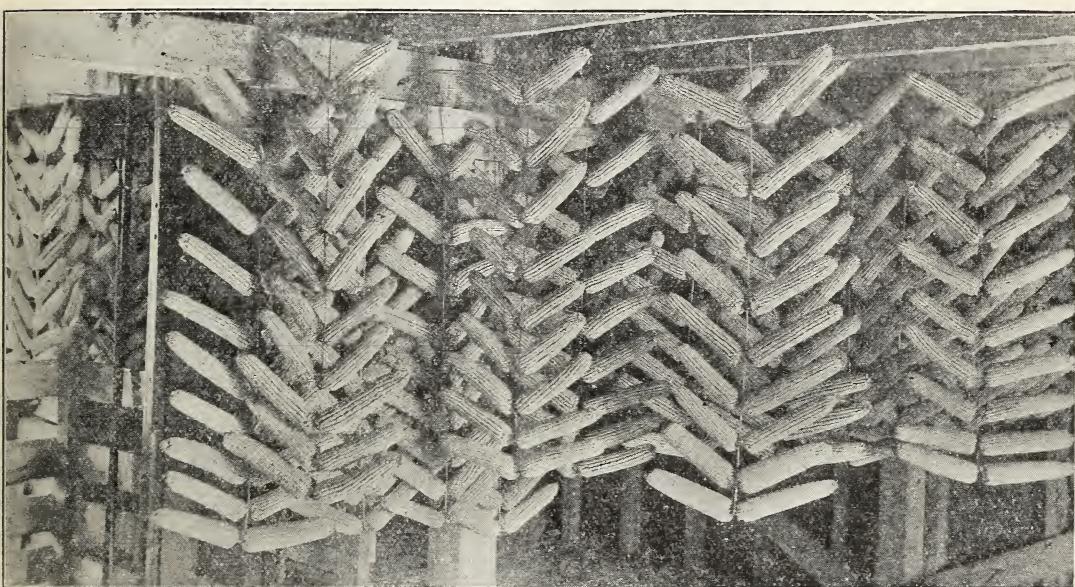
every sack. This means much more to the purchaser than it would seem at first thought. In seed corn, as in everything you purchase, you get what you pay for. Beware of any man who offers something for nothing, or something for less money than that article or quality can be honestly sold for. It will always prove dear and disappointing in the end.

BOEKER'S YELLOW DENT.

Boeker's Yellow Dent resembles Reid corn more than any other corn. It measures about one inch larger in circumference, and about one to one and one-half inch longer. It has a strong stalk, and does not break like the Reid stalk. The grain is a little wider than Reid corn and will plant more uniform in the average planter. Boeker's Yellow Dent carries its size more uniformly than Reid

Corn. It has more stalks bearing two ears than any other large corn. It matures about the same time as Reid Corn. It is easily husked; has dark red medium sized cob. "It is just the kind of corn I have been looking for," is what a great many of our customers say. To show you how popular our Boeker's Yellow Dent is, nine out of every ten who visited our seed house bought Boeker's Yellow Dent in preference to our Reid Corn. On good ground will yield more than any corn we sell. For prices see price list enclosed.

Low yields and high cost, go hand in hand. We have taken away more from our soil than we have been putting into it. Soil fertility has been much neglected since 1918. During the war production was greatly increased because prices were high. Since the close of the war production has not been decreased, because it was necessary to produce as much as possible to meet fixed expense, and the increased cost of operating. And so today much of our land is low in plant food, and cannot produce maximum yield. More than one-half of our land needs limestone so that clover may be grown successfully. We must get back to crop rotation. Two crops



A SECTION OF WHITE DENT—FIELD SELECTED.

of corn in succession is all that should be grown, then back to small grain and clover. The well rotated farms have a low unit cost of production, and the survival of the individual American farmer depends upon how well he cares for the fertility of his soil, and holds production cost at a minimum. We must use larger equipments and less labor, and be constantly on guard to eliminate waste and duplication. Organization and cooperation are very essential to the farmer, in order that he may have a voice in the price which he is to receive for his products. We have already gained much ground thru organization and when the farmer becomes thoroughly organized into one great harmonious organization, he will be able to secure any legislation that he may need and desire.

Table Grove, Ill.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Gentlemen: I received your seed corn all right, and tested it twice, and did not get over a 50 per cent germination test; but we planted it and got a number

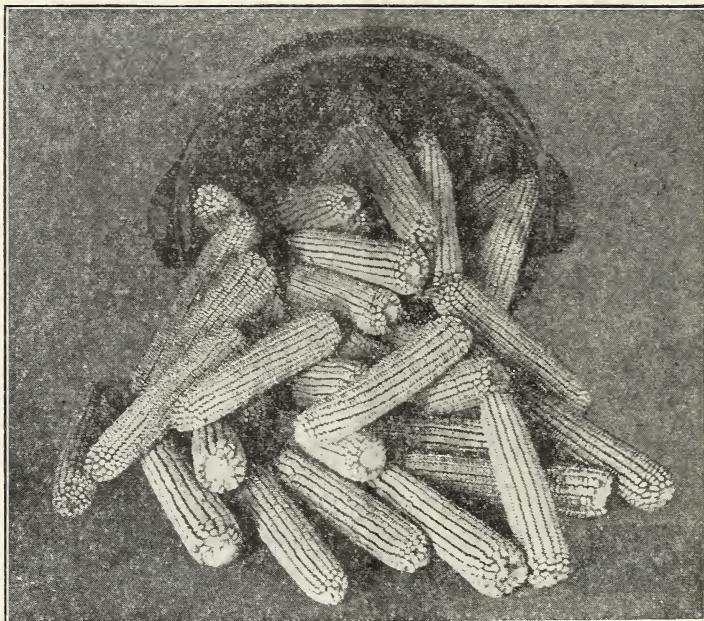
FROM DISEASE AND STANDS UP WELL.

one stand. We planted this corn on fall plowed clover sod and got about 70 bushels per acre of number one corn. Your Boeker's Yellow Dent is the best yielder we can get. I think I was at fault the way I tested the corn. But am well pleased with the outcome. Yours truly, W. G. Walters.

The above testimony fully demonstrates how difficult it is for the average person to get a fair germination test.

OUR IMPROVED GOLDEN LEAMING.

This variety of yellow corn was originated in 1826, and has been greatly improved in the last decade. It is planted extensively throughout the corn belt. Ears from 9 to 12 inches long, measuring from 7 to 8 inches in circumference, slightly spaced between rows, kernels medium smooth and running from 16 to 22 rows to the ear. It is an excellent yielder, rich in protein and has a strong stalk.



A BUSHEL OF WHITE DENT.

Matures in 110 to 120 days, according to season and soil. **For prices see Order Blank enclosed.**

Messrs. W. H. Boeker & Son.

Greenvieu, Ill.

Dear Sirs: Would say in regard to your Leaming seed corn: it has proven highly satisfactory to me, as I have had a good stand, good yield, fine quality and early maturity. It has fine feeding quality, as we feed all the corn we raise. I would say further this firm is trustworthy. You can fully depend on what they say.

John A. Ridge & Son.

N. B.—Mr. Ridge & Son are the largest land owners and feeders of east Menard.

Boeker's 90-Day Yellow is an early type of yellow corn which we have grown for a number of years and we believe it is the best early corn in its class. It matures in an average season in 90 days, or 10 to 15 days earlier than the Krug corn.

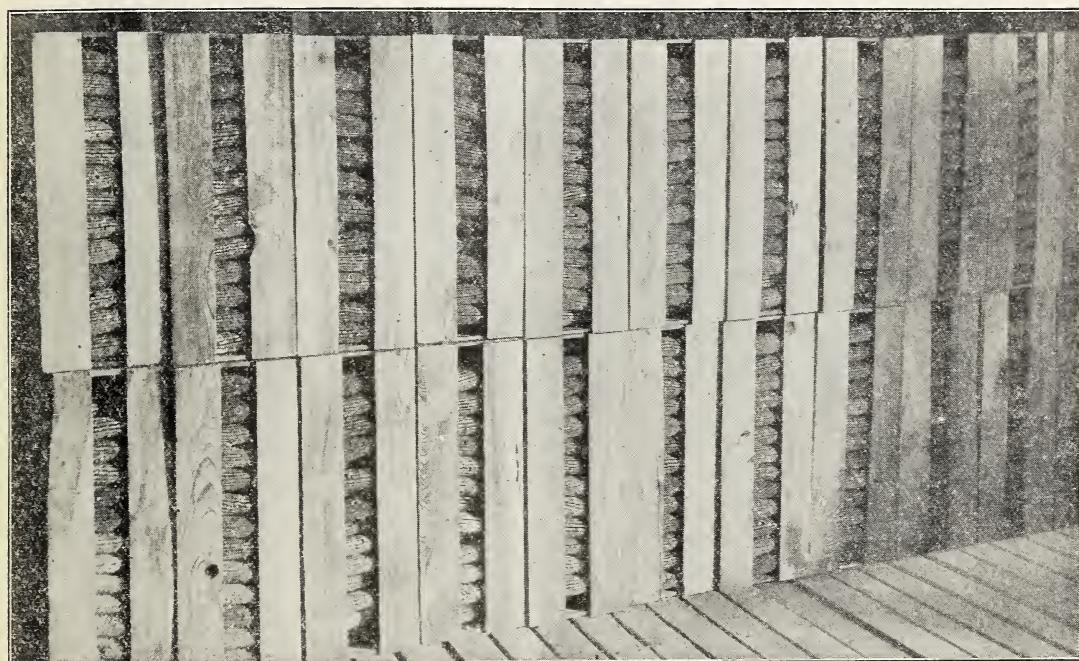
Ears run from 8 to 11 inches in length and is the heaviest yielder we know for an early corn.

Golden Glow or Wisconsin No. 12 is the earliest of all the varieties we have. Matures in 80 to 85 days; ears run from 5 to 8 inches in length; it is a good yielder for such an early corn, but we do not recommend planting it for the main crop. (Our supply is small this year.)

Krug corn is a yellow corn and resembles the old Reid corn very closely. It is a good yielder and matures in 110 days. Our type of Krug is from the original Krug seed.

Clarage Corn is an early yellow corn. It has a reputation as a high yielding corn. We can strongly recommend this variey as a high yielding corn. It matures in about 100 days.

Cooper's Favorite White Dent is an early white corn. It matures about ten to fifteen days earlier than our Dent and Leaming. It is a splendid yielder with



CRATED EAR CORN READY FOR SHIPMENT.

ears of good medium size and small cob. For those who plant white corn, this variety will surely please you.

What kind of corn to plant: Owing to the adverse season last year, quite a few persons are thinking of planting only some early variety of corn. This is a poor policy, as we may not have another season like last year for twenty years. There is no early variety that will yield with the later ones, and the yield decreases each time that you plant an earlier corn. Our Boeker's Yellow Dent and Leaming, which are the highest yielding strains of corn that we know of, will mature in 120 days in an ordinary season, and we recommend planting either of these varieties up to the 20th of May, then Krug corn up to the 1st of June, then 90-Day

up to the 15th of June, then Golden Glow up to July 1st. After July 1st we do not recommend planting any variety of corn.

Testimonial:

Bluff Springs, Ill.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Dear Sirs: The seed corn I bought from you sure did fine. I got it planted the first week in May, and it is ready to cut now, September 20th. It sure is fine corn; ears as long as your arm. I believe it will make 90 bushels per acre.

Wm. Vette,
Bluff Springs, Ill.

INTENSIVE FARMING.

The average yield of the various crops in this country are about one-half of the same crops grown in most parts of Europe, and yet their land has been in constant cultivation five or six hundred years longer than ours. We should practice soil conservation by sowing more alfalfa and clover and by feeding as much of the crop as possible, and thus have the manure to build up our soil.

We employ the same method and are just as painstaking with our shelled and graded corn as with our ear corn. Last season our ear corn sales were 10 per cent of our total sales. This year we have selected about 10 per cent of early fall field picked ear corn, for which we charge \$1.00 more than our regular stock of corn. This barely covers the extra cost of labor. All the balance of our seed will be sold in ear or shelled and graded, as our customers may prefer. However it sometimes happens that we are sold out of one or the other kind. Especially is this true if you should order late. We would therefore advise that you order early and have it shipped when you want the corn.

Be careful what kind of seed corn you plant this Spring. You cannot be too careful as your years profit largely depends upon your corn crop. With a poor stand of weakened plants your corn crop is handicapped right from the start which it cannot overcome during the rest of the season. We do not believe that 1 per cent of 1929 crib corn will be safe to plant. All of the 1929 corn crop that was not quickly dried and protected during the extreme low temperature is more or less injured for seed purposes. All corn contained more moisture at the time of the first freeze than we have ever known, and from the time of the first hard freeze in November until the sixteen degrees below in January there was no favorable weather conditions to lower the moisture contents in the corn, so that what the first freeze did not damage the second did. Good seed will be very scarce this year, and many believe that the price will be as high as in 1918 when seed corn sold from \$8.00 to \$20.00 per bushel. While we are making a price on our seed at this time we do not in any way guarantee this price to hold good for any length of time, and we reserve the right to change our price at any time without notice. While we have been able to maintain our published price list in the past, yet we cannot tell what the future might bring forth. Our seed stock is much smaller than usual. We therefore advise that you place your order as early as possible. Remit 10 per cent with your order and we will book your order to be shipped later with the balance to be paid before shipment is made.

We are often asked if it is not best to buy ear corn. Our answer is yes, unless you know the integrity of the dealer. There are some unscrupulous seed corn men who can see nothing but the almighty dollar in their business, and who care little for the reputation of their business or whether they give the value received. Usually this class of seed corn men are those who jump in for one season and sell any old corn for what they can get for it, not having any reputation to maintain. Usually it is just corn without any systematic line of breeding, curing or

testing for germination, and usually the purchaser finds such corn dear at any price. We have always held that you get just about what you pay for. However, if you have confidence in the man from whom you buy your seed corn, we would say it is better to buy the shelled and graded corn. 1st, because you get from 15 to 20 pounds more of seed than you would get out of a bushel of ear corn; 2d, because it is evenly graded and will plant more uniformly, thus insuring a better stand; 3d, the seed is all ready to put into your planter and no worry or delay is caused in the preparation of the seed when time means money.

Terms: All seed corn is cash, or a bankable note bearing 6% interest. To those who wish time, we will accept their order with 10% of total amount at time of ordering. The balance must be settled for either by cash or note before the seed will be shipped. We are sorry that we have found that the plan we tried the last two years will not work. This on account of our customers being scattered all over the state and other states which makes it almost impossible to make collection.

Write your name and P. O. address plainly. Give shipping point if different from P. O. address. Remittance may be made by P. O. order, express money order, draft or personal check. Do not send money in an ordinary letter without having it registered.

W. H. BOEKER & SON, Petersburg, Ill.

Following this are our bank references and what some of our many pleased customers say about our corn.

FINANCIAL ENDORSEMENTS.

H. H. SCHIRDING & SON, BANKERS.

Petersburg, Ill.

We are well acquainted with Messrs. W. H. Boeker & Son and are pleased to say that their reputation for honesty and integrity is above reproach.

Very truly yours, H. H. Schirding & Son.

TESTIMONIALS

I am well pleased with Boeker's Yellow Dent. Its weighing and feeding qualities are excellent. A forty bushel load of your Dent corn would weigh five bushels more than the same sized load of my own corn.

Yours truly,
H. L. Vancil, Morrisonville, Ill.
Shadowbrook Stock Farm.

Williamsville, Ill.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Dear Sirs: I received your catalogue yesterday, and was more than pleased to get it. I got seed corn from you a few years ago and was awfully well pleased with it. I am inclosing order for 8 bushels of your Boeker's Yellow Dent.

Yours truly,
Oswald McGee.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Dear Sirs: The corn I purchased from you was satisfactory, and the yield nearly three times the average. Would like your catalogue this year.

Joseph Carver, Farmington, Ia.
Springfield, Ill.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Just a line or two in regard to the seed corn I bought of you last spring. I could not ask for any better seed corn in any respect; in fact I do not believe I have ever seen any better seed than I got from you.

Practically speaking, we got a perfect stand, and the yield was very good, considering the unfavorable conditions we had. I can truthfully say buying seed corn from W. H. Boeker & Son is really a good investment.

Yours very truly,
C. R. Constant.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Dear Sirs: The corn planted from your seed averaged about 100 bushels per acre, and was good, long solid ears.

Yours,
J. M. Dower, Galena, Ill.

Niota, Ill.

Messrs. W. H. Boeker & Son.

Gentlemen: Received seed corn, Boeker's Yellow Dent in ear. It is the best looking corn I ever ordered. Am inclosing a check for \$12.00 for which please ship me at once three more bushels of Boeker's Yellow Dent corn in ear, same as last order.

Earl Chesebro, Niota, Ill.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Gentlemen: The 90-Day Yellow corn beats anything I ever saw for an early corn. It made 50 bushels per acre. Several of my neighbors picked their seed out of it.

Yours respectfully,
William Atkinson,
Taylorville, Ill.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Gentlemen: I bought some Leaming Seed corn from you last spring and planted it along side of some other corn which I had. Your corn grew much faster, had a better color all along than the corn grown from my own seed, and made fully one-third more corn. Will plant all my corn from your seed this year.

Yours very truly,
L. W. Stahl,
Petersburg, Ill.

Lancaster, Wis., Jan. 7, 1929.
The Wright Industrial Co.,
Introducers and Builders.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

My Dear Friends: I am very anxious to raise the prize piece of corn in our county. I was down to the live stock and grain show looking for some seed corn, but did not buy any because from the seed I received from you, I didn't think I could do any better than to buy from you. Your corn seems to have the strongest germination of any corn I can find. We are going to have quite a county fair with \$500.00 in premiums on field corn. Please send me your catalogue so that I may order my seed.

Yours respectfully,
Joseph Wright, Sr.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Dear Sirs: I am writing you a few lines. I got some seed corn from you three years ago and I was sure pleased with it. One field made 90 bushels per acre and one field made 80 bushels per acre. It was Boeker's Yellow Dent. Now we have two acres of alfalfa land which we wish to plant with your best field select. Please ship us the amount necessary.

Yours truly,
Albert Beanblossom,
Girard, Ill.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Gentlemen: Please ship me as soon as possible 9 bushel Yellow Dent, 9 bushel of Leaming and 2½ of 90-Day Yellow. I have ordered seed corn from you every year since I have been farming and am well pleased with the quality and yield. Shall be glad to recommend you people most highly to anyone in need of seed corn.

Yours very truly,
Reuben P. Boyenton,
Pleasant Plains, Ill.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Gentlemen: I feel that I should advise you of the results of the Krug Corn purchased from you for this years' planting. I got almost a perfect stand. This corn was planted on Decoration Day, and fifty days from that day I saw a few tassels showing. I have been cribbing on this corn since

October 20th, and is almost ready to bulk. It has made a most satisfactory yield, in fact more per acre than any corn in the neighborhood, so am more than pleased. I think this a fine corn for this section of Illinois.

Very truly,
H. J. Elliott,
Quincy, Ill.

W. H. Boeker & Son.

Gentlemen: Well, that 40 acres made 70 bushels per acre. You remember you said that if I did my part, I would get a yield of 80 bushels per acre. But I think I did real well considering the adverse season, and I thank you very much for accommodations.

Very truly,
T. F. Guinan,
Petersburg, Ill.

BANK REFERENCE

Bank Reference

THE STATE NATIONAL BANK OF
PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS

To Whom It May Concern:

We have known W. H. Boeker & Son over twenty years. We have found them to be honest, reliable, trustworthy and willing to carry out transaction that they promise their customers. We take pleasure in recommending them.

Yours truly,
H. J. Aden, President.

